# Possibilities of St. Louis Balloon Race


It is the ambition of the American aeronauts who will enter the contest at St. Louis next October in the effort to retain the international cup, which Lieut. Lahm won last year in his remarkable flight from Paris to the north of England, to make a new long-distance record. In fact long before the contest for the international cup, which is not to occur until October, ascensions will be made to beat Count de La Vaulx's record, St. Louis will be the point from which these ascensions probably will be made, and before the great race it is not at all improbable that a new goal will have been set for foreign aeronauts to attain.

One has but to glance at the maps of Europe and of the United States to see at a glance how much greater is the opportunity for a long flight from St. Louis than from Paris. Whereas a long flight from Paris is not possible unless the wind is blowing approximately from the west, St. Louis is so situated at the heart of the United States that a balloon may fly hundreds of miles before reaching the sea, regardless of the direction of the wind.

In fact, the chance of equalling or exceeding the world's long distance record, which is now held by Count Henry de La Vaulx, is just twice as great from St. Louis as from Paris. From the capital of France a balloon must travel within a segment of a circle of only 110 degrees, having a radius equal in length to de La Vaulx's record flight, to avoid being carried out to sea, but from St. Louis the segment of such a circle within which Count de La Vaulx's record may be beaten includes 220 degrees.

Lieut. Frank P. Lahm's winning of the international cup last year, with a record of only 402 miles, is an illustration of the difficulty of attaining a considerable distance from Paris, except under favorable conditions. On the day set for the race the wind was blowing almost directly from the south and the balloons were carried to the channel and thence to England. For Lieut. Lahm to have attempted further flight would have been to court almost certain death by being carried past the coast of Norway and into the Arctic ocean.

That Count de La Vaulx's flight of 1,250 miles, from Paris to the province of Kieff, in Little Russia, made in 1900, still stands as the world's long distance record, in spite of hundreds of ascents made each season since then and determined and repeated efforts of aeronauts to wrest from him the title of world's champion, is convincing proof of the difficulties in the way of beating that record in Europe.

In America, on the contrary, the door to opportunity is wide open. Until Count de La Vaulx's exploit the long distance record had been held in this country for 41 years by the flight of John Wise and three companions from St. Louis to northern New York in 1859, a distance of more than 800 miles. Had Wise's balloon not been caught in a terrific storm and wrecked it is quite possible that at that time a record would have been made at least equal to that of de La Vaulx.

American aeronauts have an added stimulus for establishing a new record through the contest for the Lahm cup, which is to take place some time during the summer. Various conditions are attached to the contest for this trophy, but the main thing is to exceed Lieut. Lahm's record of 402 miles, made last year, when he won the international cup for America.

If the wind is blowing directly from the north or west at the time of the ascension from St. Louis and the upper currents correspond with those close to the earth it will not be possible to exceed Count de La Vaulx's record. The balloons will be carried out to sea on the Gulf of Mexico or the Atlantic ocean in such circumstances. But with a wind from any other direction the chance of establishing a new record is exceedingly good.

It is not regarded as probable that a balloon would be carried across the Rockies from St. Louis because of the almost entire absence of east winds in that section of the country, but with a south wind or even a wind from the southwest a balloon could be carried not further than into northern Maine and still establish a new record.

With Canada stretching for hundreds of miles to the north, the opportunities in that direction are virtually without limit, and in spite of the chances of being lost in the wilds of the northland it is there that the eyes of aeronauts are turned most hopefully.

Men who are spending much money and time in making elaborate plans to add the world's record as well as the international cup to America's trophies are cheered by the knowledge that the science of aeronautics has so far advanced that there will be little difficulty in keeping a balloon afloat at least as long as Count de La Vaulx's was in the air when he made his record flight.

Wise and his companions had been in the air only 19 hours when he had covered a distance of more than 800 miles in a straight line from St. Louis, and the aeronaut's own record of the voyage described a course covering more than 1,100 miles, while Count de La Vaulx was in flight for 36 hours and 45 minutes to cover a distance of 1,250 miles.

If some daring American aeronaut can maintain Wise's speed, and at the same time maintain his balloon in the air as long as did Count de La Vaulx, there can be no doubt of beating the record, provided the balloon is carried over the land.

Wise was heading straight toward what would now be the world's record when his balloon was wrecked. He had followed a general east-northeast direction from St. Louis and was heading down the valley of the St. Lawrence, following the north shore of Lake Ontario, when he was suddenly swept inland and his voyage ended.

Foreign aeronauts who have entered for the international cup race are eagerly discussing this chance of establishing a new record. One of the leading writers on aeronautics in Paris recently went so far as to say that the question of making a new record from St. Louis is the feature of the contest of greatest interest to sportsmen.

# Mountaineering in the Rockies

A BIT OF ROCKWORK

A CLIMBING-PARTY ON THE EDGE OF A CREVASSE

There are sections of the Rockies in Canada as well as the United States which are every whit as picturesque and grand as the Alps and which offer as fine opportunities for the enthusiast in mountain climbing as ever did the peaks in Switzerland. There has been an American Alpine club for a number of years whose membership is made up almost entirely of residents of the United States. The members of this club have not only climbed and explored many of the peaks of the Rockies in this country, but in Canada as well. And now Canada has an Alpine club which was organized a little more than a year ago and which is now planning for its summer outing. When the movement began pressure was brought to bear by the president of the American Alpine club to have the new club organize as a branch of that club to be known as the Canadian section of the American Alpine club. But objection was raised to the name, as well as the eagle, the crest of the American club. It was then proposed to change the name and even the emblem of the club, calling it the Alpine Club of North America, but this did not appeal to the Canadian mount[illegible] and organization was [illegible] along independent lines, al[illegible] Fay, of the American [illegible] club, was elected an honorary [illegible]mber, following which fully a dozen Americans have become active members of the new club and are counted among the most enthusiastic of the club's members.

It is no secret that there are now no more virgin peaks in United States territory, except Mount McKinley, in Alaska, which is nearly as high above the sea as Mount Everest, and very much higher above its base. Moreover, it is declared to be an impossible height. American mountaineers, therefore, of whom there is a steadily increasing number, have their eyes on the Canadian Rockies, where there are still vast regions of unconquered glacier mountains worthy of their prowess. For the Canadian Alps cover an area of 600 miles from the eastern foothills to the coast, and a thousand miles from the forty-ninth parallel to as far north as a man can win.

And so there will remain for many years to come lofty maiden mountains, splendid and remote, to challenge the ambitious strenuous climber. For to the valiant who have once tasted blood, this of mountaineering is not only the noblest but the most insatiable of all noble sports.

The aims of the new club are: (1) The promotion of scientific study and exploration of Canadian Alpine and glacial regions; (2) The cultivation of art in relation to mountain scenery; (3) The education of Canadians to an appreciation of their mountain heritage; (4) The encouragement of the mountain *craft*, and the opening of new regions as a national playground; (5) The preservation of the natural beauties of the mountain places, and of the flora and fauna in their habitat; (6) The interchange of literature with other Alpine and geographical organizations.

It is thus obvious that the Alpine Club of Canada differs from most Alpine clubs in that it proposes to make mountaineering popular among the people, and is in no wise exclusive. The president and father of the club is Mr. Arthur O. Wheeler, F. R. G. S. He is also its right arm "and spoon and necessary of life." The venerable Sir Sandford Fleming is patron, and there are eight associate members, who pay an annual fee of $25. The present membership is 160, and applications are still coming in.

The constitution provides for a summer school of mountaineering in some strategic place where members may foregather for climbing and mountain study. The initial summer session was held in July of last year on the summit of the Yoho pass, 6,000 feet above the sea, with over 100 in attendance, besides a corps of mountain outfitters, two Swiss guides, and a dozen of experienced Rocky mountain climbers. Seven high mountains, one a virgin peak, were climbed by successive parties during the week the session lasted.

This summer camp, known locally as the Yoho meet, began as an experiment and ended as an institution. On a shining morning in July over 50 members of the club, some of them in full climbing canonicals, left Mount Stephen house, the railway company's hotel at Field, with expectant faces turned toward the rendezvous, 17 miles away in the wilderness.

Of two routes a small party chose the trail leading over Burgess pass and round the precipitous pass of Mount Wapta, high above Emerald lake, straight on to the Yoho pass. For the sake of changing views, the infinite movement of mountains, "still moving with you," this route is to be recommended strongly. There, ever before you on yon high, narrow pathway, are the distant purple ranges softly folding and unfolding; and nearer mountains with clinging glaciers and gleaming streams descending the rock steeps thousands of feet; and 2,000 feet below, in a rich green forest setting, lies Emerald lake. These changing sites are worth the long tramp or ride on the back of a sure-footed broncho.

The other, less difficult, more popular route by eight miles of wagon road through a lovely forest avenue [illegible] nine miles of trail, was chosen by [illegible] of the 50. Rejecting the wagon, [illegible] walked the excellent drivi[illegible] road, swinging off with that gait wh[illegible] betokens your vagabond born—a hopeful omen, for most were city dwellers. The road runs straight through the tall forest of firs, whose topmost spikes are softened to a fringe of green against the narrow blue roof of the sky, a cathedral aisle in nature with a gray, white-crested mountain at either end; or it winds gently till it reaches the chalet on the edge of Emerald lake. I said less difficult trail, but certain elements of glacier and sun, and afterwards rain, were circumventing our easy-going trampers.

Next, day, in rain again, the first official ascent of the club was made by a party roped to two Swiss guides. Although two were ladies, although it rained from start to finish, although the ascent involved steep rock climbing, glacier, step-cutting, and over a mile of soft snowfield, not one "funked," and they reached the summit in a shower of sleet and wind. There were, of course, no views; but the party, mostly neophytes, was determined to show what stuff plainsfolk were made of. There was thundering, echoing applause upon their return to camp.

Every morning parties set out for different summits or for the two days' pilgrimage into the Yoho valley and up to the great Wapta Glacier at its terminus. Every day recruits arrived in camp. Every day there was a mail and fresh supplies from the commissariat. Every day telegrams were sent of the progress of the climbing.

The pass itself is a lodging place to remember. The close wood of fir and pine and fragrant balsam opens on a lovely meadow carpeted with white and purple heath; and manifold varieties of gaily colored and rare flowers abound. Here and there on the meadow trees are grouped in parklake effect. Under the shadow of Mount Wapta, gray against the bluest of skies, in the very heart of this balmy forest, lies a tarn of purest emerald-green, fed by myriads of tiny springs beneath its shallow bed. No glacial stream sullies its limpid water. It ought to be called Emerald rather than the turbid glacial lake of that name 2,000 feet below, whose color is nearer turquoise. When Summit lake,—as it is called—is calm in early morning, the fine bubbles are seen welling upwards to the surface as if Nature had inverted her law, and dewdrops were rising instead of falling. But when once the sun is up and the surface breeze ruffles its surface, it flashes like an emerald of purest water.

For the summer of this year the meet will be on a meadow of about a square mile's area at the upper end of Paradise valley, at the foot of Horseshoe glacier on Mount Hungabee (chieftain), the most difficult mountain in the neighborhood of fine glacier mountains. It has only been once climbed, and that was by an expert Alpinist and two Swiss guides.

# The New Pinafore Dress

The new pinafore dress is not becoming to all women, but it is exceedingly popular. The two costumes which are shown above are quite ideal. The seated damsel is decorating a gown of puce and green shot taffeta, with a broad hem bearing raised appliques of silk outlined with embroidery, the same adornment being evident in the front of the bodice, which has the broad Japanese sleeve, while the neck shows a square of lace, and the broad-brimmed hat is of puce-colored straw with variegated anemones as trimming.

Biscuit-colored cloth is the material chosen for dress No. 2, with thick guipure to form the center panel and the small V at the neck, the bodice being further ornamented with bold filigree buttons. The hat of brown chip bears tulle and feathers as its trimming, and takes deliberately that backward tilt which gives the talent of the hairdresser much opportunity for expression.

A PRETTY CAPE CORSAGE.

A dress in gray voile, trimmed with tuckings of the material; cape-corsage over a lace blouse.. Chip hat with ostrich feathers.

A marked effect of the season's frocks are their soft, clinging character. The corselet is making but little show in the new models; it proved too trying a style for any but perfect figures, and needed such excellent making. Nor do the promised long, tight-fitting coats seem as yet to make much headway. The prevailing style is certainly a deep swathed belt with a short, loose bolero coat overhanging it, for the softer and more dressy materials; and for the tailors' materials a little basqued coat, with the lower edge of the basque scarcely turning the hip-line, and the apparent waist several inches higher. The tendency, you see, continues to be rather towards the high-waisted style that we call the New Empire fashion (though not much like the Napoleonic outline in truth) and not in the direction of the long-waisted, close-fitting corsage, which gets itself periodically predicted, but does not arrive. Still, although the waist-line is made high by swathed belt or curved-in cut of coat, the lower edge of the belt is kept well down, or the deepest line of the basque sits jauntily out at the hips, so as still to retain a rather long-waisted effect.

But if the shape of the corsage as regards the waist is but little modified so far from what it was in the winter, there is a very decided new note at another point: the necessary up-to-dateness of your frock will reveal itself at the shoulder. For the dress-sleeve proper now reduces itself to practically an epaulette, a [illegible] puff at the utmost—and the [illegible] actually covers the arm to the elbow comes out of the arm-hole as a distinct affair, making believe, as it were, to appertain to an under-blouse, even though no blouse be there. This is described as "kimono" fashion, though with not much more exactitude than the existing short-waisted style is "Empire." However, the Japanese "kimono" cut is the idea, the original model, from which these new shoulder and armhole effects have "evoluted;" that is certain. The shoulder cut all in one with the front of the bodice, thus giving a very long effect on the top of the shoulder, and the extremely wide and low cut under armhole, make a very characteristic feature in the new models, and fulfill the object of our dictators, the dress-producers, in compelling us to restock our wardrobes.

As an under-sleeve, appearing out of the wide, full, and often draped epaulletted sleeve, there usually comes, to reach to the elbow only, a puff of some fancy or fragile and delicate fabric, as lace, broderie Anglaise, soft satin, embroidered gauze, or pleated tulle. This undersleeve is made of the more fragile fabric, irrespective of whether that is used elsewhere on the dress, although, as a general rule, more or less of the material of the sleeve will be seen introduced somehow. The effect of the "kimono" cut, with the lighter sort of undersleeve coming out of the wide armhole, is naturally much the same as it would be if there were a separate blouse being worn, to which the under-sleeves belonged; and in fact this is the case sometimes, the corsage being a bolero without any more sleeves than the "kimono" cut gives, and a blouse is worn beneath, showing down the front and as the elbow sleeves. Frequently, however, the whole corsage is in one, and a yoke, or a vest down the front, or only a V at the throat, is of the same material as the sleeves, all placed on one fitted lining with the rest of the bodice.

### Conscientious Husband.

Eugene Higgins, whose yacht Varuna lay in the harbor of Nice, was entertaining at dinner at Ciro's, in Monte Carlo, a party of Americans.

The talk turning to play at the Casino, Mr. Higgins described an incident that he had witnessed the night before.

"In one of the gold rooms," he said, "a gentleman in lavender gloves was playing in wonderful luck, winning nearly every stake. As a great stack of plaques—you know those beautiful, big gold pieces called plaques—was pushed to him by the croupier I heard a young lady whisper in his ear:

"'It's very odd, monsieur, to wear gloves at play. What do you do it for? Luck?'

"The fortunate player smiled grimly.

"'Not at all,' he replied. 'I promised my wife on her death bed never again to touch a card.'"